

## **Week of May 12, 2003: Maine DOT Flash Facts**

### **Topic: Speeding**

#### **Monday:**

**Opener:** Do you know Maine's number one highway killer? Find out after the break.

#### **Flash Facts:**

Excessive speed is Maine's number one highway killer. 15% of Maine crashes and 40% of the fatalities are caused by speeding. According to the Maine DOT, some Maine crash facts include:

- Teenage drivers are 2 1/2 times more likely to be in a speed related crash. Excessive speed coupled with a younger driver's inexperience is a dangerous combination.
- Nearly half of these fatal crashes occur between 8pm and 2am.
- Each year unsafe speed kills about 70 people in Maine. Don't think of speeding as something that may only cost you a ticket. It may also cost your or a loved one's life.

Be a Road Model: Drive at a safe speed to prevent deadly crashes.

#### **Wednesday:**

**Opener:** Do you know the dangers you create when you speed? Find out the effects of speeding after the break.

**Flash Facts:** According to the Maine DOT, excessive speed causes the following dangerous situations:

- It takes a nearly double the distance to stop the vehicle at 60 miles per hour (nearly 600 feet) than at 40 miles per hour (about 300 feet).
- When speeding, drivers have shorter reaction times.
- There is an increased tunnel vision view of the road when speeding, reducing one's peripheral vision.

Be a Road Model: follow the speed limit

**Friday:**

**Opener:** In this fast moving world, many people try to make up for lost time by speeding while driving. Find out why the Maine DOT says this is a major a problem.

**Flash Facts:**

With unsafe speed killing about 70 people per year in Maine, it's important to remember the following ways to avoid driving at excessive speeds in your vehicle:

- Remember, if you leave 15 minutes late, expect to arrive 15 minutes late. Do not try to make up the time by speeding while you drive.
- Adapt your speed to the variety of potential hazardous driving conditions, such as night-time, weather conditions such as rain or fog, work zones and be sure to follow highway warning signs.
- Drive defensively and remain aware of other drivers on the road. Remember that driving is a major responsibility. Your actions could cost you your life or that of others

Be a Road Model: drive safely